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Terrorism Task Force

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# Homeland Security Advisory System

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY

OCT 08 2008

**SEVERE**  
SEVERE RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

**HIGH**  
HIGH RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

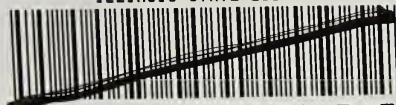
**GUARDED**  
GENERAL RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

**LOW**  
LOW RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS



American  
Red Cross





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## LOW

**LOW RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS**

### MAKE A PLAN

- Discuss with family and friends emergencies that could occur. Establish responsibilities of how each person should react.
- Establish an alternate meeting place(s) away from home with family/friends.
- Learn how to turn off utilities such as: gas, electric and water. Have a fire extinguisher and know how to use it.
- Everyone in the household has emergency contact information with them that are out-of-town contacts.

### BUILD AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT(s)

- Plan on storing enough supplies for everyone in your household for at least three days (72 hours).
- Have a kit for your house, vehicle and your place of work. Be prepared to shelter in your home or to be evacuated.

### GET TRAINED

- Learning first-aid and CPR techniques can give you the skills to help anyone.
- Know how to shelter-in-place.

### VOLUNTEER

- Examine volunteer opportunities in your community, such as Citizen Corps or others, and donate your time and blood.

## GUARDED

**GENERAL RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS**

### Complete recommended actions at lower level

- Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to local law enforcement.
- Check stored disaster supplies and replace items that are outdated.
- Review emergency communications plan with your family.
- Review, with family/friends, your alternate meeting places(s) away from home.
- Schools should conduct safety training/emergency drills following their written emergency plans.

## ELEVATED

**SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS**

### Complete recommended actions at lower levels

- Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to local law enforcement.
- Ensure disaster supply kit(s) is stocked and ready.
- Check telephone numbers and email addresses in your family emergency communications plan and update as necessary.
- If not known to you, contact school to determine their emergency notification and evacuation plans for children.
- Develop alternate routes to/from work, school and practice them.

## HIGH

**HIGH RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS**

### Complete recommended actions at lower levels

- Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to local law enforcement.
- Review disaster plan with family and make sure all family members know what to do.
- Exercise caution when traveling, pay attention to travel advisories.
- Check on neighbors or others that might need assistance in an emergency.

## SEVERE

**SEVERE RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS**

### Complete recommended actions at lower levels

- Be prepared to shelter-in-place or evacuate if instructed to do so by local officials. Be aware of neighbors who are elderly or have special needs and may require assistance.
- Listen to radio and TV for current information and possible instructions.
- Be alert to suspicious activity and report it immediately to local law enforcement.
- Contact business and school to determine status of work/school day.
- Expect travel delays. Adhere to any travel restrictions announced by local government authorities.
- Discuss children's fears concerning possible or actual terrorist attacks.



**The Homeland Security Advisory System** - is designed to inform about protective measures to be taken when specific threat information to a specific sector or geographic region of the country is received. It combines threat information with vulnerability assessments, which is communicated to public safety officials and the public.

**Color-Coded Threat Level System** - is used to communicate with local public safety officials and the public at-large through a color-coded threat based system so that protective measures can be implemented to reduce the likelihood or impact of an attack. The Homeland Security Advisory System can place specific geographic regions or industry sectors on a higher alert status than other regions or industries, based on specific threat information.

**Recommended Activities** - all persons, including those traveling in the transportation systems, should continue to be vigilant, take notice of their surroundings, and report suspicious items or activities to local authorities (9-1-1) immediately.

Everybody needs to establish an emergency preparedness kit as well as a communications plan for themselves and their family, and stay informed about what to do during an emergency situation.

# Resources for Homeland Security Preparedness Information

## Illinois Terrorism Task Force

[www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov)

## American Red Cross

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

## Illinois Emergency Management Agency

[www.state.il.us/iema](http://www.state.il.us/iema)

## Office of the State Fire Marshal

[www.state.il.us/osfm](http://www.state.il.us/osfm)

## Illinois Department of Public Health

[www.idph.state.il.us](http://www.idph.state.il.us)

## Illinois State Police

[www.isp.state.il.us](http://www.isp.state.il.us)

## FBI

[www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)

## FEMA

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

[www.fema.gov/areyouready](http://www.fema.gov/areyouready)

## FEMA Kids

[www.fema.gov/kids](http://www.fema.gov/kids)

## Centers for Disease Control

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

## National Oceanic & Space Administration (NOAA)

[www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)

## National Weather Service

[www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)

**Or Contact Your Local  
Office of Emergency Management**

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